

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-05 IO-09 SCSE-00 SCA-01 EB-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 744

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 7124

AIDAC

AID/W FOR FDRC

CINCPAC FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LCDR

FKOCHEY (J-3)

CINCEUR FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LTC

RKIMBLE (J-4)

USMISSION GENEVA FOR UNDRC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: PAKISTAN FLOOD RELIEF - ESTIMATED LOSSES OF CROPS &
STORED WHEAT

REF: (A) STATE 165887 (B) ISLAMABAD 6950

SUMMARY - ON BASIS OF STILL VERY LIMITED INFORMATION WE
MAKING FOLLOWING ESTIMATES STANDING CROP LOSSES FOR
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PUNJAB AND SIND; LINT COTTON 800,000 BALES (OF 392 LBS.),

COTTONSEED OIL 40,000 M. TONS; RICE 350-400,000 M.T.
MAIZE AND MINOR CROPS 100,000 M.T.
SUGUR ABOUT 120,000 M.T. AND STORED WHEAT ABOUT 800,000 M.T.
END SUMMARY.

1. ESTIMATED LOSSES DUE TO EXCESSIVE RAINS AND FLOODING STILL VERY PRELIMINARY. IN NEXT FEW DAYS WILL RECEIVE REPORTS OF SURVEY TEAMS IN PUNJAB AND ALSO ADDITIONAL OTHER DATA FROM PROVINCE OFFICIALS. EXPECT TO PROVIDE BETTER ASSESSMENT BY SEPTEMBER 3.

2. WATERS IN SIND STILL HIGH AND DAMAGE CONTINUES. ACCORDING REPORTS FROM KARACHI TWO THIRDS OF COTTON AND RICE IN NAWABSHAH AND LARKANA DAMAGED. NAWABSHAH MAJOR COTTON AREA WITH 164,000 BALES LAST REPORTED CROP.
LARKANA MAJOR RICE AREA
WITH 245,000 TONS LAST REPORTED CROP. SUKKAR WHICH ALSO HEAVILY HIT PRODUCED 175,000 TONS RICE. NAWABSHAH PRODUCES 80 PERCENT OF SUND SUGAR CROP. SIME AREAS OF DADU AND THATTA TEHSILS WHICH PRODUCE 290,000 TONS RICE FLOODED, BUT DAMAGE NOT AS SERIOUS ASHFOR NAWABSHAH AND LARKANA. NOT POSSIBLE THIS TIME TO ASSESS AMOUNT OF INUNDATED CROP LIKELY SURVIVE OR YIELD EFFECT.

BELIEVE BASIS VERY TENTATIVE DATA LOSSES STANDING CROPS IN SIND; RICE 150,000 TO 200,000 M.T.; COTTON 30,000 TO 50,000 M.T. OIL CONTENT OF COTTON SEED MIGHT BE 10,000 TO 15,000 M.T. SUGAR LOSS MAY BE 20,000 TO 30,000 M.T.

3. NO OFFICIAL ESTIMATES MADE AND DO NOT FEEL IN POSITION TO ESTIMATE LOSSES TO STORED GRAINS IN SIND. HOWEVER, GIVEN GREATER ADVANCED WARNING THER MAY NOT BE PROPORTIONATELY AS SERIOUS AS FOR PUNJAB. WOULD HAZARD A GUESS THAT FOR SIND IT MAY NOT EXCEED 100,000 TONS EVEN THOUGH NAWABSHAH WHICH IS THE LARGEST WHEAT GROWING TEHSIL WITH ABOUT 20PERCENT OF SIND PRODUCTION WAS HARD HIT BY FLOODS.

4. FOR PUNJAB INDICATIONS ARE THAT RICE LOSS MIGHT NOT BE AS HIGH AS ESTIMATED REF B IF WATER, FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDES CAN BE APPLIED QUICKLY. ASSUMING THIS TIMELY ACTION WE WOULD BE INCLINED TO LOWER RICE LOSS ESTIMATES TO 200,000 TONS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PUNJAB AND ABOUT 350-400,000 FOR THE PUNJAB AND SIND COMBINED.

5. COTTON ACREAGE TOTALLY DESTROYED MAY BE AS ABOUT AS PREVIOUS ESTIMATED BUT REPORTS INDICATED EXCESSIVE VEGETATIVE GROWTH WHICH OCCURRING IN SURVIVING FIELDS INCLUDING PUNJAB AREAS NOT FLOODED MAY CUT YIELDS. FOR SIND AND PUNJAB COMBINED, BELIEVE BEST ESTIMATE TOTAL LOSS 140-150,000 TONS OR ABOUT 800,000 BALES (OF 392 LBS,) AND OIL LOSS ABOUT

40,000 TONS.

6. BELIEVE TOTAL SUGAR LOSS SIND AND PUNJAB ABOUT 120,000 M.T.

7. DO NOT HAVE BASIS FOR REVISION FIGURES ON MAIZE, FODDER AND OTHER CROPS.

8. STORED WHEAT. RECENT REPORTS ARE THAT MOST OF 25,000 TONS GOVERNMENT STOCKS THOUGHT LOST HAVE BEEN SAVED. WE HAVE NO NEW ESTIMATES COMMERCIAL STOCK LOSSES. OUR PERSONNEL IN FIELD REPORT THAT IN SOME AREAS WHERE NO RIVER FLOODING OCCURRED FAIRLY LARGE NUMBERS OF MUD HUTS COLLAPSED DUE TO HEAVY RAINS. THIS WOULD CAUSE SOME ADDITIONAL WHEAT LOSS AND DAMAGE. HOWEVER, THIS MAYNRHU ABOUT OFFSET BY SALVAGED GRAIN IN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HANDS. OUR BEST ESTIMATES NOW TOTAL LOSSES STORED WHEAT ABOUT 800,000 M.T.

9. RE PARA 2 REF A WE INFORMED THAT SWEDEN BUYING APPORXIMATELY 100,000 TONS WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT PAKISTAN.
SOBER

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